

Dear Members of the Planning and Development Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support and pass House Bill 6105 as an adoptee who was born in New London, CT, who lived for several years as a child in Niantic, CT and then spent most of her summers and winter breaks romping around the home of our family friend Dr. Frank Marx in Waterford, CT.

It has been two decades since I have been back to visit Connecticut, I now live in Portland, OR, yet the laws of my birth state keep me from valuable information as I raise my own family. I have paid and attempted to find my birth mother, through the Child and Family Agency of South Eastern CT who handled my adoption, in order to obtain more detailed medical information for both my sons' health, as well as my three daughters' health and my own.

It is a harrowing experience as a parent to have specialists continue to ask questions about family history and the only available response to be "I'm sorry I am adopted". No-one should ever have to feel or say they are sorry for being adopted. No individual, or their family, should have to be kept in the dark about crucial medical history. A state should also fairly and equally apply laws, not create subclasses of citizens based on their birthdates.

I am hopeful that you are able to put yourself in the shoes of those adoptees kept from their birth information and recognize the inequality and injustice of maintaining subgroups of adoptees created when laws are not equitable.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Emily Canibano

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With peace and loving kindness,

Emily Canibano, M.ed  
MACTE AMI Primary Guide (MNW)  
Master Trainer (ORTP)  
ERYT/Children'sYT/PYT (Yoga Alliance)  
GFI/cPT/Children's Fitness Expert (ACE)  
Low Stress Handling® Silver Certification

"This is education, understood as a help to life; an education from birth, which feeds a peaceful revolution and unites all in a common aim..." - Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*